



City of Miami Springs, Florida

The **Miami Springs Historic Preservation Board** met at 7:00 p.m., on Thursday, October 16, 2008 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1) Call to Order/Roll Call

The following were present:

Chairman Mary Ann Goodlett-Taylor
Vice Chairman Sydney Garton
Charles M. Hill
Yvonne Shonberger
Michael Windrem

Also Present: Deputy City Clerk Suzanne Hitaffer

2) Approval of Minutes:

2a. September 18, 2008 Regular Meeting

Vice Chair Garton moved to approve the minutes and Board member Hill seconded the motion, which carried 5-0 on voice vote.

The Clerk of the Board commented that Councilman Dotson found an error in the minutes. The Miami Open dates on the Golf Course designation plaque should be 1925 to 1955, instead of 1945 to 1955. She will correct the minutes as noted.

3) Old Business:

a. Designation Report for H. H. Highhouse – 160 Sunset Way

Chair Goodlett-Taylor stated that she could not find an address for Helen Highhouse Mills who lived in Chiefland, Florida. She asked if someone could research to see if they could find her on the internet.

The Board reviewed the Site Designation Report and the information from the Building Department street file for the property located at 160 Sunset Way, including the survey, legal description, permit history and record of ownership (attached for the record).

Vice Chair Garton stated that the house now has three bedrooms and two baths with an entry porch and kitchen nook in the rear. The zoning is single-family R-1C and the folio number is on the survey. In 1952, a bedroom and bath were added by Harry A. and wife Catherine G. Marquis who owned the home from 1946 to 1971. The next owner was Malcolm Elliott who purchased the home in 1971.

Chair Goodlett-Taylor said that her family moved to 141 Shadow Way in February, 1934. Her father rented and eventually purchased the house from Lina Curtiss Wheeler and she is not sure if the Highhouse family rented or owned their home.

Vice Chair Garton commented that there is no record of ownership between 1925 and 1946. She said that the survey was prepared in 2005 when Alex Mendez purchased the property. The file also includes the Certificate of Re-occupancy form when Tim McCarthy sold the house to Mendez.

Chair Goodlett-Taylor reiterated that the internet could be searched to find Harold or Helen Mills.

Vice Chair Garton recommended tabling the item until the next meeting.

Board member Shonberger said that she would like to consider the historical context and what was happening in 1925 when the home was built. She added that more information is needed to show the record of ownership between 1925 and 1946.

Chair Goodlett-Taylor stated that the home was built by B. L. Smith and it might be possible that Mrs. Curtiss Wheeler was the owner. The homes were built before Country Club Estates (Miami Springs) was incorporated.

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of researching the County records or conducting a title search.

Vice Chair Garton moved to table the item. Board member Shonberger seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on voice vote.

Further discussion ensued regarding the horses and Shetland pony that belonged to the Highhouse family. Horses were allowed in the town until the zoning was changed in 1947.

Preserve America

Board member Shonberger first presented the information regarding Preserve America last year. She explained that she received an e-mail from Grant Writer Carol Foster informing her that the City Manager granted permission to complete the application.

Vice Chair Garton referred to a subsequent e-mail from Carol Foster recommending that the Board appoint a “point” person or designee to assist her with the preparation and completion of the application. The Board would develop a plan for which historic/preservation project to highlight in the application that best addresses the program criteria. She said that a City Council resolution would have to be effected within the next month before the December deadline.

Further discussion ensued regarding the Preserve America designation form and requirements.

Vice Chair Garton moved to appoint Board member Shonberger as the point person for the Preserve America project. Board member Hill seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on voice vote.

4) New Business:

a. Curb Appeal

There were no “Curb Appeal” recommendations.

5) Reports/Requests:

5a. Council Liaison:

Councilman Dotson was not present.

5b. Board Members

Chair Goodlett-Taylor reported that the G. Carl Adams house at 31 Hunting Lodge Court had been sold for \$815,000 to a local dentist and his wife who are bringing the home back to its original look.

Board member Shonberger suggested that Chair Goodlett-Taylor should ask the new owners if they would be willing to participate in the annual tour of homes.

Board member Shonberger mentioned that she was unable to change the wording for the Golf Course designation plaque in her computer. “Black” golfers should be changed to “Minority” golfers.

The Board **recommended** that the Administration should proceed with the preparation of the Golf Course designation signs with the amended wording.

6) Adjourn

There was no further business to discuss and the meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Hitaffer
Clerk of the Board

Approved as written at meeting of: 11-20-2008

The comments, discussions, recommendations and proposed actions of City Citizen Advisory Boards do not constitute the policy, position, or prospective action of the City, which may only be established and authorized by an appropriate vote or other action of the City Council.
